FAL. Thou dost give me flattering busses.

DOL. Nay, truly; I kiss thee with a most constant heart.

FAL. I am old. I am old.

DOL. I love thee better than I love e'er a scurvy young boy of them all.

FAL. What stuff wilt have a kirtle of[3] ? I shall

Mrs. Ford for his concise address to her, by saying, " I cannot cog, and *say this and that,* like a many of these *Lisping* hawthorn-buds, that come like women in men's apparel, and smell like Bucklers-bury in simple-time;, I cannot; but 1 love thee," &c.

MALONE.

s — a KIRTLE of?1 I know not exactly what a *Urtle* is. The following passages may serve to show that it was something different from a *gown:* " How unkindly she takes the matter, and cannot be reconciled with less than agotiw or *&leirtle* of silk.'* *Greene's Art of Legerdemain,* &c. 1612. Again, in one of Stanyhurst's poems, 1582:

" This *gotvne* your lovemate, *tli&t&irtle* costlye she craveth."

Bale, in his Actes of English Votaries, says, that Roger earl of Shrewsbury sent " to Clunyake in France, for the *Itvrlle* of holy Hugh the abbot.*' Perhaps *kirtle,* in its common acceptation, means a *petticoat.* ' Half a dozen taffata gowns or sattin */artles."* *Cynthia's Revels,* by Ben Jonson.

Stubbs mentions *Mrtles,* but is not precise in his description of them* Dr. Farmer supposes them to be the same as *safe-guards* or *riding-hoods.*

In A Lvtell Treatvse for to lerne Englvsshe and Frensshe, emprvnted at Westminster, by Wynken de Worde, we find " a %r-*tell'* explained by the word—" ung corset." STEEVENS.

A *Icirtle,* I believe, meant a *long cloak.* Minsheu describes it as an *upper* or *exterior garment,* worn over another; what in French is called a *garde-robe.* See his Diet. 1617. The latter word is explained by Cotgrave thus: "A cloth or cloak worn or cast over a garment to keep it from dust, rain," &c. That writer, however, supposes *Isirtle* and *petticoat* to be synonymous; for he renders the word *vasqwine* thus : " A *kirtle* or *petticoat:* " and *surcot* he calls " an *upper Urtle,* or a garment worn over a

kirtle."

When, therefore, a *Icirtle* is mentioned simply, perhaps a petticoat is meant: when an upper kirtle is spoken of, a long cloak or mantle is probably intended: and I imagine a *hall-kirtle*, which occurs in a subsequent scene in this play, meant a *short cloak*, half the length of the upper kirtle. The term *half-kirtle* seems